

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF FISHERIES

EEB



Cordova

August 21, 1922.

The Commissioner of Fisheries,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter received this morning from the U. S. District Attorney's office, at Valdez, stating that several canneries in the Territory of Alaska, in this district, have not paid their Federal Case Tax for the year 1921.

You will note that the District Attorney intends to bring suit against all these firms and desires that the Washington office give the pack figures of all of these companies for the past three years.

If you will kindly send me the figures for the past three years, I will get the figures for this year; in fact, I already have some of them.

Incidentally, I might state in this connection, that I have experienced much difficulty and have lost much valuable time, in attempting to secure pack figures from these small companies. I have tried this year to make clear to these little companies that it is absolutely essential for the Bureau to have these figures at the close of the season, in order that the agent in charge of the district, and also the Washington office, might be informed, and be thus enabled to compile a tentative report which would be of mutual benefit to the Bureau and to the canneries. I have met with a ready response from some of the small operators, but the majority of them are very indifferent. It is obvious that they must be forced in some way to give this information.

I am greatly hindered in my assembling of these data at the close of the season, and much additional work is necessary at this office, because of the indifference of these people, and because of the fact that most of them keep unreliable and inadequate records.

1 enclosure.

Shirley A. Baker
Assistant Agent.